REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 16-27 and 29-36 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 16 and 29 have been amended and claims 35 and 36 have been added. No new matter has been added.

Objection to Claim 29

In Section 6 of the Office Action, claim 29 stands objected to since the limitation "corresponding data in said selected material clip as editing objects to said each scene of said plurality of scenes" is repeated twice. Claim 29 has been amended to address this objection.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection to claim 29 has been has been obviated and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

§ 102 Rejection of Claims 16-24, 26-27 and 29-34

In Section 8 of the Office Action, claims 16-24, 26-27 and 29-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Miller *et al.* (U.S. Patent No.5,801,685; hereinafter referred to as "Miller").

The Background Art Section of the Specification, it was indicated, "for editing image data using a personal computer, it is necessary that a user has to learn operating function of a personal computer, and it takes time to obtain the intended result of edition." *Background of the Specification, page 1, lines 10-12.*

To address the above-described problems with a conventional information processing

8   00305573

apparatus, of difficulty in user operation and inefficiency in obtaining an intended editing result,

embodiments of the present invention include apparatus, method, and medium capable of editing

image data simply and quickly to allow improved image editing.

For example, the steps of information processing method claim 29, as presented herein,

includes:

> *selecting* a material clip from a plurality of material clips for automatic editing
> process;
>
> *storing* scenario data configured into a plurality of scenes having timing
> information including start time of each scene of said plurality of scenes;
>
> *corresponding* data in said selected material clip as editing objects to said
> each scene of said plurality of scenes;
>
> *modifying* said material clip with special effects so that said plurality of scenes
> includes transitions between scenes with special effects scenes,
>
> *wherein* said special effects are selected from a plurality of distinct special
> effects categories; and
>
> *continuously reproducing* said plurality of material clips on the basis of said
> scenario data.

(emphasis added)

Accordingly, in one aspect of claim 29, the method includes *modifying* said material clip

with special effects so that said plurality of scenes includes transitions between scenes with

special effects scenes, *wherein* said special effects are selected from a plurality of distinct special

effects categories. *See e.g., Specification, pages 20-24; Fig. 18.* Claim 36 further states,

"wherein at least one of said plurality of special effects categories is a transition category." *See*

e.g., Specification, page 33.

Although Section 8 of the Office Action states that Miller discloses, in column 5, lines

26-65, *modifying* said material clip with special effects so that said plurality of scenes includes

00305573

transitions between scenes with special effects scenes, Miller fails to disclose *modifying* said

material clip with special effects so that said plurality of scenes includes transitions between

scenes with special effects scenes, _wherein said special effects are selected from a plurality of_

distinct special effects categories, as recited in claim 29.

To address this point, the relevant passages of Miller, column 5, lines 26-65 are

reproduced below:

"Updating of the EDL in response to a change in the script text is thus facilitated by the

use of an edit link table. Each entry in the edit link table links a control link sequence in the text

with an edit in the EDL. The edit link table entries also include the offset time from the

beginning of the text to the control link location of the video clip defined by the link edit. When

a link control sequence is encountered during a scan of the text, the edit link table entry referred

to by the embedded control sequence is referenced. If the offset time stored in the edit link table

is different from the current calculated reading time, the edit link table entry offset time is set to

the current time, and the linked edit entry in the EDL is updated by adjusting the clip start time

by the difference between the previous offset time and the current time (to reflect changes in the

text). Otherwise, the scan proceeds without changing the edit table entry in the EDL. ... When a

change is made to the script text, to cause the start time of a video clip to be moved, the play-

time duration of the video clip corresponding to the edited text must also be updated. This can be

accomplished by either adding or deleting material from the clip, such as by adding video frames

to increase the play-time duration or deleting frames to decrease the play-time duration, or by

decreasing or increasing the playback speed of the video clip while keeping the same number of

video frames." *Miller, column 5, lines 26-50.*

"The control links between the text script and the EDL are dynamic links. As additional textual material is added to or removed from the text script, the EDL is automatically updated to reflect the change. Thus, for example, if text is added to a particular portion of the script, the editing system scan of the script following the change will cause the run-time duration of the video clip associated with that portion of the text to be automatically increased. Simultaneously, the start-times of subsequent video clips defined by the EDL are moved outward in time by the reading time of the additional material added. Thereby, the recorded video elements of the presentation being edited are maintained in synchronization with the presentation script by repeatedly scanning through the text script." *Miller, column 5, lines 51-65.*

In other words, Miller discloses that when a textual script (to be read in conjunction with a video clip) is edited, the video clip is then edited in length to coincide with the edited text script, to maintain synchronization between the two. Material is either added or deleted from a video clip, such as by adding or deleting video frames, or the playback speed of the video clip is either decreased or increased.

By contrast, claim 29 includes modifying a material clip with special effects chosen from a plurality of distinct special effects categories, which is not taught or anticipated by merely adjusting the length of a video clip to correspond to a textual script to be read or synchronized with the video clip. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Miller, in the above-stated passage (column 5, lines 26-50), fails to disclose "modifying said material clip with special effects so that said plurality of scenes includes transitions between scenes with special effects scenes, *wherein* said special effects are selected from a plurality of distinct special effects categories," as claimed. Therefore, Miller fails to teach or disclose all the limitations of claim 29.

00305573

Based on the foregoing discussion , it is submitted that claim 29 should be allowable over Miller. Since claims 16 and 32 closely parallel, and include substantially similar limitations as recited in, claim 29, claims 16 and 32 should also be allowable over Miller. Further, since claims 17-27, 30-31, and 33-34 depend from claims 16, 29, and 32, respectively, claims 17-27, 30-31, and 33-34 should also be allowable over Miller.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 16-27 and 29-34 based upon 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

§ 103 Rejection of Claim 25

In Section 11 of the Office Action, claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Miller in view of Abe (U.S. Patent No.6,714,216). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Based on the foregoing discussion regarding claims 29 and 16, and since claim 25 depends from claim 16, it is submitted that claim 25 should be allowable over Miller. Abe was merely cited for disclosing that the data in video editing is animation data. Therefore, claim 25 should also be allowable over Miller and Abe.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 25 based upon 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

00305573

Newly-added claims 35 and 36

Based on the foregoing discussion regarding claims 29 and 16, and since newly-added claims 35 and 36 depend from one of claims 29 and 16, it is maintained that claims 35 and 36 should be allowable over the cited references.

Accordingly, favorable examination and allowance of newly-added claims 35 and 36 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 16-27 and 29-36 are respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes that have been made to these claims were not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes were made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.
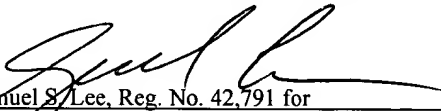
In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any

overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: Samuel S. Lee, Reg. No. 42,791 for
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
(212) 588-0800

14

00305573